CHRISTMAS IS COMING AGAIN
KEY
鍵
I KNOW I'M BEING SELFISH
I KNOW FULL WELL THAT HE'S THINKING OF ME
THERE ARE TIMES WHEN I CAN'T HELP BUT WORRY
BUT

YOU KNOW, I THINK TSUKASA-CHAN HAS CHANGED A BIT LATELY
REALLY? IN WHAT WAY?
LET'S SEE~ SHE SUDDENLY SMILES FOR NO REASON
OR MAYBE SHE JUST LOOKS LIKE SHE'S HAVING A GOOD TIME
AH, BUT SHE STILL ISN'T TALKING TO ME THOUGH
LOOKS LIKE WE'VE BEEN FOUND OUT BY THIS OLDER SISTER...

KEY

鍵

たけのこ星人

AUTHOR:
TAKENOKO SEIJIN

I THOUGHT SO - IT'S ALL THANKS TO YOU, ISN'T IT?
AH YES WELL, IT'S A GOOD THING FATE ALLOWED US TO MEET HERE TODAY, YOU SEE,
COUGH
I WAS WONDERING IF I COULD ASK YOUR ADVICE, OR RATHER -
||
UM, THAT MIGHT NOT BE SUCH A GOOD IDEA
NO, THAT'S NOT WHY
?
SORRY, YOU MUST BE PRETTY BUSY, RIGHT?
I JUST THINK TSUKASA-CHAN WILL BE HAPPIER IF YOU PICK IT OUT YOURSELF, JUNICHI-KUN
RIGHT?

キーンコーン
KIN-KON
OK THEN, I WILL COLLECT THE TESTS -
WHEN WE ENTERED OUR SENIOR YEAR, AYATSUJI-SAN ENDED UP IN A DIFFERENT CLASS
I'VE ALSO BEEN TAKING MORE SHIFTS AT MY PART-TIME JOB LATELY, SO OUR TIME TOGETHER HAS DECREASED... IT'S LONELY
CLATTER
CLATTER
カーンコーン
KAN-KON
SORRY, I'VE GOT WORK TODAY AS WELL
AYE, SEE YA LATER
TODAY TOO, CAP'N? YOU'RE REALLY GUNG-HO!
IT IS LONELY, BUT IT CAN'T BE HELPED!
I'LL WORK HARD AGAIN TODAY!
TODAY, IF ITS ALL RIGHT, CAN WE - -
TACHIBANA-KUN?

DOKUN
DOKUN
HERE, AYATSUJI-SAN, HAPPY BIRTHDAY
DOKUN
IT'S...
EH? THIS...!
YEAH, TEA CUPS. YOU MENTIONED THEM BEFORE, SO...
EH?
I'M HAPPY BUT - AS USUAL YOU JUST DON'T GET IT, DO YOU?
YOU HAVE TO USE ONE OF THEM YOURSELF
BECAUSE THEY'RE "PAIR CUPS"
OH... I GET IT
GRIEF TACHIBANA-KUN
AREN'T YOU SAVING UP TO MOVE OUT RIGHT NOW?
YOU MUSN'T GO USING UP YOUR IMPORTANT SAVINGS ON THINGS LIKE THIS
EH.. THINGS LIKE THIS...

BUT THAT'S CRAZY ...
BE QUIET
DIDN'T I SAY "I'M IN CONTROL OF YOU"?
AND "I OWN YOU"
THEREFORE I ALSO OWN YOUR MONEY
GOT IT?
SO... ON SOMETHING LIKE THIS...
YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO SPEND MONEY FOR MY SAKE
- YOU UNDER-STAND, RIGHT?

IDIOT...
TOKUN
TOKUN
TOKUN
- YOU NEED TO BE CLOSE TO ME AT TIMES LIKE THIS -
DIDN'T I TELL HIM TO STOP WORKING SO MUCH?
ha
AYATSUJI-SAN, I'M SORRY!
ha
AND IT'S THE FIRST TIME I'VE BEEN ABLE TO RELAX AND SEE AYATSUJI-SAN IN A LONG TIME!
ha
ha
SHIT, I'M 5 MINUTES LATE!
ha
クリスマスセール
CHRISTMAS SALE

UNFORGIVE-ABLE!
Mmu-
Fu!...
Mn
SFX: MAKING OUT

AH.
AYATSUJI-SAN!?
Haa...
Ku-chuchu
Kuchu
Puchu
Nmu
fu-
Mmu
SFX: MAKING OUT

SQUEEZE
Ha
Ha
SHE'S PRESSING HER CHEST UP AGAINST ME
Fuu
Hafu
Ha
AND SHE DEFINITELY SMELLS GREAT...
Haa
Haa
PANIC
COULD SHE BE TRYING TO SAY "I'M YOUR CHRISTMAS PRESENT".....!
DAMN IT... I HATE THIS...
WHY... DO I HAVE TO... HAVE TO START FEELING LIKE THIS....?
HUH?
A-AYATSUJI-SAN, I'M SORRY I WAS LATE...
THAT'S RIGHT... THIS IS YOUR FAULT

Haa...
WHENEVER I SEE THAT TEACUP
I THINK ABOUT TACHIBANA-KUN
I CAN'T STAND IT....
EVEN THOUGH YOU WERE JUST A LITTLE LATE...
I DIDN'T THINK I WOULD BE SO WORRIED-
Fu!
IS IT OK TO BE THIS CONTENT...?
IS IT OK TO RELY ON YOU THIS MUCH...
OH NO, SHE'S FEELING UPSET
AYATSUJI-SAN...
NOW THAT I'VE HAD A TASTE OF WHAT THIS FEELS LIKE, NEXT TIME I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO LET GO OF YOU -
SOMETIMES I GET SO SCARED.....

EVEN THOUGH I KNOW I CAN TRUST TACHIBANA-KUN
I START THINKING THAT SOMEDAY YOU MIGHT DISAPPEAR...
- THAT PART OF MYSELF.
I HATE IT ...!!
AYATSUJI-SAN... I'M SORRY
UNFORGIVEABLE
BUT... I'M KIND OF GLAD TOO
IDIOT

EH ?
MAKING ME THIS UPSET, THERE'S NO EXCUSE!
YOU BETTER TAKE RESPONSIBILITY...
I KNOW
MERRY CHRISTMAS
.....
THIS ISN'T WHAT I'M THINKING IT IS, IS IT...!?
AH!
SORRY, IT'S ANOTHER PAIR -
RINGS!

S... SORRY
AH, HEY YOU - YOUR TIMING IS JUST A LITTLE BIT TOO PERFECT DON'T YOU THINK?
...ANYWAYS
IT'S NOT SOMETHING REALLY EXPENSIVE BUT YOU SEE,
I WANTED TO GIVE YOU THIS, NOW THAT WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER FOR A YEAR
I WANTED TO PUT MY CONNECTION TO YOU, AYATSUJI-SAN, INTO A PHYSICAL SHAPE

I THINK I MIGHT BE THE "KEY" TO AYATSUJI-SAN
.....
ARE YOU SANTA?
HERE'S HOPING THAT ONE DAY I'LL BE ABLE TO UNLOCK THE DOOR TO HER HEART SO THAT SHE CAN BE HAPPY-
ONLY FOR YOU, AYATSUJI-SAN
I WILL ALWAYS BE BY YOUR SIDE
TH-THAT'S RE-SERVED FOR A MORE IMPORTANT OCCASION... YOU KNOW?
OH, SHOULDN'T I HAVE PUT THE RING ON YOUR FINGER, AYATSUJI-SAN?

...GOOD GRIEF I TOLD YOU NOT TO BUY THINGS LIKE THIS
AH, BUT I TOOK SOME EXTRA SHIFTS TO PAY FOR IT, SO IT'S OK!
YOU DISOBEYING ORDERS AND BITING IS BECOMING A PROBLEM, YOU KNOW?
REALLY... JUST HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO DISCIPLINE THIS MONGREL
HA-HA
BITING? I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT
THAT WAS JUST AN 'AMAGAMI' FULL OF MY AFFECTION FOR YOU
END
TL NOTE: 'AMAGAMI' AS YOU KNOW, IS A SWEET LITTLE NIBBLE

TYPESETTER &
TRANSLATION:
MR. WOLF-OF
BLOOD